

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Claims

1. A composition in compacted form for use for termite monitoring and control comprising a cellulose material selected from the group consisting of purified cellulose and micro-crystalline cellulose as a base bait, said composition being compacted to an optimum density of not less than approximately 1.033 g/cc.

2. A composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein said composition is in the form of a tablet.

3. A composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein said cellulose material is purified cellulose.

4. A composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein said cellulose material is micro-crystalline cellulose.

5. A composition as set forth in claim 1 additionally containing an active ingredient for killing or controlling termites.

6. A composition as set forth in claim 1 additionally containing a termite attractant and/or pheromone.

7. A composition as set forth in claim 2 wherein said tablet has been compacted to a density of between approximately 1.033 g/cc and 1.377 g/cc.

8. A composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein said composition is in a compacted form selected from the group consisting of tablets, briquets and extruded forms.

9. A method for monitoring and controlling termite infestations comprising the steps of

(a) preparing a composition in compacted form comprising a cellulose material selected from the group consisting of purified cellulose and micro-crystalline cellulose, said composition being compacted to an optimum density of not less than approximately 1.033 g/cc;

(b) placing said composition in a bait station;

(c) monitoring said station at periodic time intervals for termites;

and

(d) upon observing termite infestation in said bait station, replacing the composition in said bait station with a bait composition containing a termite killing agent.

10. A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said composition is in the form of a tablet.

11. A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said cellulose material is purified cellulose.

12. A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said cellulose material is micro-crystalline cellulose.

13. A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said composition additionally contains a termite attractant and/or pheromone.

14. A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said termite killing agent is selected from the group consisting of chitin synthesis inhibitors, juvenile hormone mimics, stomach toxicants, contact insecticides and mixtures thereof.

15. A method as set forth in claim 10 wherein said tablet has been compacted to a density of between approximately 1.033 g/cc and 1.377 g/cc.

16. A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said composition is in a compacted form selected from the group consisting of tablets, briquets and extruded forms.

17. A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said composition in compacted form is in the form of a tablet prepared by applying a tableting pressure of between approximately 516 and 1377 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>.

18. A method as set forth in claim 14 wherein said synthesis inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of hexaflumuron, flufenoxuron, lufenuron and dimilin.

19. A method as set forth in claim 18 wherein said synthesis inhibitor is dimilin.

20. A method for controlling termite infestations comprising the steps of  
(a) preparing a composition in compacted form comprising a cellulose material selected from the group consisting of purified cellulose and micro-crystalline cellulose, said composition being compacted to an optimum density of not less than approximately 1.033 g/cc, and a termite killing agent; and  
(b) placing said composition in a bait station.

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21. A method as set forth in claim 20 wherein said composition is in the form of a tablet.

22. A method as set forth in claim 20 wherein said cellulose material is purified cellulose.

23. A method as set forth in claim 20 wherein said cellulose material is micro-crystalline cellulose.

24. A method as set forth in claim 20 wherein said termite killing agent is dimilin.

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